



# **COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**

## *Department of Emergency Management*

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### **DISASTER FIELD OFFICE**

**7401 Timberlake Road**

**Lynchburg, VA 24502**

**FEMA-1458-DR-VA**

**Commonwealth Situation Report #34**

**Wednesday, June 4, 2003**

**\*\*\*\*THIS IS THE FINAL SITUATION REPORT\*\*\*\***

#### **1. OPERATIONAL PERIOD:**

**12 Noon *Wednesday, May 28, 2003*, through 12 Noon *Wednesday, June 4, 2003*** (New information in bold italics.)

#### **2. SITUATION:**

A major winter storm struck Virginia beginning February 15 causing major flooding in Southwest Virginia and significant ice and snowfall in the Shenandoah Valley and areas of Northern Virginia. The weather pattern continued to bring warmer temperatures, melting snow/ice and more heavy rainfall, which combined to cause more local flooding.

Governor Mark R. Warner declared a State of Emergency on February 16, 2003, to speed state agency assistance and resources to localities in need. The counties of Accomack, Augusta, Buchanan, Dickenson, Essex, Fauquier, Frederick, Highland, Loudoun, Madison, Orange, Russell, Shenandoah, Tazewell, Warren, Wise and Wythe and the cities of Norton, Richmond, Salem and Winchester declared emergencies.

The Governor requested the federal Public Assistance program (PA) on February 28 for snow and/or flooding for the following localities: the counties of Albemarle, Arlington, Bland, Buchanan, Clarke, Craig, Culpeper, Dickenson, Essex, Fairfax, Fauquier, Frederick, Grayson, Greene, Highland, Lee, Louisa, Loudoun, Madison, Orange, Prince William, Rappahannock, Russell, Scott, Shenandoah, Stafford, Spotsylvania, Tazewell, Warren, Wise and Wythe and the cities of Alexandria, Charlottesville, Fairfax, Falls Church, Fredericksburg, Manassas, Manassas Park, Norton, Richmond, Salem and Winchester.

The Governor requested the federal Individual Assistance program (IA) on March 4 for these winter storm events in the counties of Augusta, Buchanan, Dickenson, Fauquier, Frederick, Loudoun, Madison,

Montgomery, Prince William, Roanoke including the Town of Vinton, Russell, Shenandoah, Tazewell, Warren, Wise and Wythe and the cities of Norton, Roanoke, Salem and Winchester.

A Major Presidential Disaster Declaration (FEMA-1458-DR-VA) was declared on March 27, 2003. The counties of Buchanan, Dickenson, Montgomery, Russell, Tazewell and Wise and the cities of Norton, Roanoke and Salem were designated for Individual Assistance (IA). Public Assistance (PA) is available for the counties of Arlington, Clarke, Fairfax, Fauquier, Frederick, Highland, Loudoun, Orange and Rappahannock and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church and Winchester. All jurisdictions in the state are eligible to apply for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). A Disaster Field Office was opened in Lynchburg on March 31, 2003. The hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and closed Saturdays and Sundays. The DFO telephone number is 434-832-8440 and the fax number is 434-832-8544. The briefing meetings in the DFO are held Wednesday as follows: Commonwealth (COV) 8:30 a.m.; joint Federal/COV 9 a.m. The Department of Homeland Security threat level has been reduced to elevated (yellow).

The Virginia Farm Service Agency (FSA) has made emergency (EM) physical loss loans available to 10 Virginia counties due to blizzard damages that occurred from Feb.15-Feb.18, 2003. Those counties are Amelia, Augusta, Culpeper, Fauquier, Highland, Page, Prince William, Rappahannock, Rockingham and Shenandoah. In addition to the above counties, 25 other Virginia counties/cities were named as contiguous counties/cities where eligible family farmers may qualify for FSA EM physical loss loan assistance. Those Virginia counties/cities are Albemarle, Bath, Chesterfield, Clarke, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Fairfax, Frederick, Greene, Harrisonburg City, Loudoun, Madison, Manassas City, Manassas Park City, Nelson, Nottoway, Orange, Powhatan, Prince Edward, Rockbridge, Spotsylvania, Stafford, Staunton City, Warren, and Waynesboro City. These loans to Virginia counties/cities may be made available to applicants with a qualifying physical loss in the named counties/cities effective 3/18/03 through 11/18/03.

The following counties and cities were added to the Presidential declaration, FEMA-1458-DR-VA effective April 28, 2003:

Prince William, Shenandoah, and Warren, and the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park, for Public Assistance, Category B. only. (Emergency protective measures for a period of 48 hours)

Appomattox, Buchanan, Craig, Dickerson, Floyd, Halifax, Henry, Lee, Montgomery, Pittsylvania, Scott, Wise, and Wythe Counties and the independent cities of Danville, Norton, Roanoke, and Salem for Public Assistance, all categories.

Lee, Pulaski, and Roanoke Counties for Individual Assistance.

### 3. WEATHER

***Today: Considerable cloudiness with a chance of showers this AM. Then scattered thunderstorms and showers this afternoon. Highs 75-80, winds SW 5-15mph. Chance of rain 50 percent. Tonight: A chance of showers and thunderstorms early, otherwise partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 50s, West winds around 10 mph. Chance of rain 30 percent. Thursday: Mostly sunny, highs in the upper 70s, West winds 10-15 mph.***

**4. CURRENT STATE PRIORITIES:**

- A. Continue to process payments for Public Assistance applicants.*
- B. Continue actions to close the DFO Friday, June 6, 2003.*

**5. ONGOING ACTIONS/ISSUES:****A. Individual Assistance (IA):**

**STATE CONTACT:** Frank Williamson, 804 897-6500, X6528

Tele-registrations:

*(As of COB 6-03)*

- *Total Tele-registrations 1,336.*

Inspections:

*(As of COB 6-03)*

Inspections Issued, to date	<b>1145</b>
Inspections Returned to FEMA	<b>1143</b>
Inspections Outstanding	<b>2</b>
<i>% Inspections Completed</i>	<b>98.5</b>

Individuals and Households Program (IHP) Overview: *All individual assistance completed.*

*(As of COB 6-03)*

IHP is the premier federal grant program for Individual Assistance administered by FEMA and the Commonwealth. It is comprised of two components: Housing Assistance and Other Needs Assistance as listed below. The maximum grant that can be awarded is \$25,000.00 shared between the programs two components on a first come first served basis.

Housing Assistance (HA): 100% Federal funded grants. A \$5,000.00 limit exists on grants for "housing repairs".

Eligibility Rate	72%
Amount Approved	<b>\$1,131,810.00</b>
Amount Disbursed	<b>\$1,121,336.00</b>
Referrals	<b>1,085</b>
Approved	<b>779</b>

Other Needs Assistance (ONA): (75% Federal and 25% State funded Grants) Processing of referred applications to Other Needs Assistance.

Eligibility Rate	44%
Amount Approved	<b>\$827,236.00</b>
Amount Disbursed	<b>\$729,025.00</b>
Referrals	<b>470</b>
Approved	<b>197</b>

Small Business Administration: 100% Federal funded low interest loans  
(As of **COB 5-29**)

Home Applications Issued	<b>536</b>
Business Applications Issued	<b>73</b>
Total Applications Issued	<b>609</b>
Total Applications Approved	<b>52</b>
Total Applications Pending	<b>21</b>
Total Amount Approved	<b>\$476,300.00</b>
<b>Business Applications Approved</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>\$ Amount Approved</b>	<b>\$28,100.00</b>

**B. Public Assistance (PA):**

**STATE CONTACT:** Bob Andersen, 434-832-8506

- *FEMA Public Assistance funding has been suspended temporarily due to the high demand on federal disaster funding nationwide.*
- All kick-off meetings completed.
- *71 requests for Public Assistance. Received two new requests for Public Assistance from the town of St. Paul (Wise County) Town of South Boston. Two are pending (town of Front Royal and Warren County Schools).*

Requests for Public Assistance	<b>71</b>
Project Worksheets (PWs) Obligated	<b>103</b>
PW Funds <i>Obligated</i>	<b>\$3,879,953.87</b>
PW Funds <i>Approved for Payment/paid by VDEM</i>	<b>\$1.434,189.63</b>

- Two reservists (Carl Winstead-snow and Bill Wilhelm-flood) in field.
- Grants Conveyed (Paid or Pending):  
*City of Martinsville, Arlington County, City of Falls Church, Town of Berryville, Loudon County Public Schools, Marymount University, City of Manassas Park. Town of Middleburg, VDOT, Manassas Regional Airport and the City of Winchester.*

**C. Hazard Mitigation (HM):**

**STATE CONTACT:** Richard Dameron, 804-897-6500, Ext. 6525

- Managing state Hazard Mitigation operations from VDEM HQ in Richmond.

**D. Public Affairs (PAO):**

**STATE CONTACT:** Dawn Eischen, 804-897-6510

- Managing state Public Affairs operations from VDEM HQ in Richmond.

**E. Legislative Liaison:**

**STATE CONTACT:** Arthur Warren, 804-897-6500 Ext 6587

- Managing state Legislative Liaison from VDEM HQ in Richmond.

**F. Hazardous Materials:****STATE CONTACT:** Jack Tolbert, 276-328-2329

- The Wise County Hazardous Material Team was utilized from Feb 17 through April 19, 2003. The team logged 1976 man-hours for a total cost of \$51,159.89 including equipment use and labor. 12,040 lbs of metal was recycled and 520 gallons of fuel and oil was recycled by local industry. Items disposed included propane tanks, freon tanks, oxygen cylinder, vehicle batteries, drums, fuel tanks and many household containers.
- All recovery operations are complete.

**G. Information and Planning****STATE CONTACT:** Warren Theis, 434-832-8456

- *Files and information about the Lessons Learned meeting on May 9, 2003 were forwarded to VDEM Information and Planning for coordination.*
- *This is the final state situation report.*

**H. Deputy State Coordinating Officer:****STATE CONTACT:** Mary Camp, 434-832-8560

- Current State staffing level at the DFO for today is 8 including field staffing.
- Currently planned DFO close date *remains* June 6, 2003.

(s) Mary G. Camp for  
**Michael M. Cline, SCO**

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